

## Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SR-02 ORM-01 /080 W  
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R 221955Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3350

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3447

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI, PINS, SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS: DETENTION RATE AND FAMILY NOTIFICATIONS

1. SUMMARY. RELIABLE CHURCH SOURCE CONFIRMS SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PERSONS DETAINED BY GOC SECURITY FORCES IN APRIL AS COMPARED TO MARCH. SOURCE ALSO PRESENTS EVIDENCE THAT PROVISIONS OF NEW LAW REQUIRING SECURITY AGENCIES TO NOTIFY FAMILY MEMBERS WITHIN 48 HOURS AFTER PERSON IS DETAINED, AND TO CHARGE OR RELEASE PRISONER AFTER FIVE DAYS, ARE BEING IGNORED. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING LONG CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 20, RELIABLE CHURCH SOURCE CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH INTERDENOMINATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR PEACE STATED THAT COMMITTEE RECORDS SHOW NUMBER OF PERSONS ARRESTED AND HELD BY GOC SECURITY AGENCIES ROSE FROM 118 IN MARCH TO 178 IN APRIL, AN INCREASE OF 46 PER CENT. THESE FIGURES APPLY ONLY TO GREATER SANTIAGO AREA. SOURCE STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH FINAL RESULTS OBVIOUSLY NOT YET IN, UPWARD TREND APPEARS TO BE OONTINUING IN MAY. DIRECTORATE OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (DINA) WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR NEARLY ALL DETENTIONS. SOURCE ACKNOWLEDGED THERE COULD HAVE BEEN ADDITIONAL DETENTIONS WHICH WERE NOT REPORTED TO THE  
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COMMITTEE, BUT DOUBTED IF THIS WOULD MATERIALLY ALTER

COMMITTEE'S FIGURES, GIVEN COMMITTEE'S WELL-ESTABLISHED REPUTATION AS PRINCIPAL ORGANIZATION IN CHILE CONCERNED WITH PROBLEMS OF SECURITY DETAINEES AND THEIR FAMILIES.

3. REFERRING TO NEW DDCREE ON INTERNAL SECURITY SIGNED APRIL 30 AND PROMULGATED MAY 8 (SANTIAGO 3084 NOTAL), SOURCE STATED THAT SO FAR DINA HAS NOT BEEN HONORING NEW REQUIREMENTS TO NOTIFY FAMILY MEMBERS WITHIN 48 HOURS OF A PERSON'S DETENTION, OR TO CHARGE OR RELEASE THE DETAINEE WITHIN FIVE DAYS. COMMITTEE HAS FORWARDED TO CARDINAL SILVA A LIST OF 28 PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN DETAINED SINCE LAW WENT INTO EFFECT AND WHOSE RELATIVES HAVE NOT BEEN INFORMED OF THEIR WHEREABOUTS. COMMITTEE IS CONTINUING TO LIST SUCH PERSONS SIMPLY AS "DISAPPEARED."

4. SOURCE BRIEFLY SHOWED EMBOFF COPY OF TELEX STORY TO LONDON TIMES RECENTLY FILED BY LOCAL STRINGER FLORENCIA VARAS WHICH REPORTS ABOVE ITEMS AND ALSO CONTAINS ADDITIONAL STATISTICAL INFORMATION DRAWN FROM COMMITTEE RECORDS. SOURCE CONFIRMED ALL DATA USED BY VARAS EXCEPT HER DETAINEE FIGURES FOR MARCH AND

APRIL; CORRECT FIGURES ARE THOSE CITED IN PARA 2.

5. FOR LONDON: WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT OF VARAS STORY IF AND WHEN IT APPEARS IN LONDON TIMES.

6. COMMENT. ASSUMING ACCURACY OF SOURCE'S INFORMATION, WHICH WE HAVE NO REASON TO DISPUTE, PLUS INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE OF CONTINUED USE OF TORTURE BY DINA (SEPTTEL), WE ARE FORCED TO CONCLUDE THAT PINOCHET AND OTHER TOP GOC LEADERS ARE EITHER GENUINELY MISINFORMED ABOUT TRUE NATURE OF DINA OPERATIONS, OR ARE UNWILLING OR UNABLE TO CURB DINA'S EXCESSES. TO DATE, EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT NEW SECURITY LAW AND OTHER TALK OF RELAXATION OF INTERNAL SECURITY/HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES HAVE NOT MATERIALLY ALTERED BEHAVIOR OF GOC SECURITY APPARATUS.

7. HIGHER RATE OF DETENTION MAY BE BALANCED OR EXCEEDED BY ACCELERATING DETAINEE RELEASE PROGRAM (SANTIAGO 3336).  
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